

# GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF DISPENSING OPTICIANS

## Teleconference/Public Hearing Board Meeting Minutes

December 22, 2006

A meeting of the Georgia State Board of Dispensing Opticians was held on Friday, December 22, 2006, in Room 107 of the office of the Secretary of State at the Professional Licensing Boards' Office at 237 Coliseum Drive in Macon, Georgia.

### **The following Board members were present:**

Glenn Morris, *President*

Steve Sanford, *Vice President*

Diane Drake, *Cognizant*

Dave Meldrum

Thomas Schulz

### **Staff Members Present:**

Tanya Battle, *Assistant Director*

Gwen Dodson, *Administrative Assistant*

Wylencia Monroe, *Board Attorney*

### **PUBLIC HEARING**

Mr. Morris established that a quorum was present, and called the Public Hearing to order at 9:25 a.m. As there were no written or verbal comments, the public hearing was adjourned at 9:45 a.m.

The Board voted that the formulation and adoption of these rules does not impose excessive regulatory cost on any licensee and any cost to comply with the proposed rules cannot be reduced by a less expensive alternative that fully accomplishes the objectives of the applicable laws as provided by the Attorney General's office.

The Board also voted that it is not legal or feasible to meet the objectives of the applicable laws to adopt or implement differing actions for businesses as listed in O.C.G.A. §50-13-4(3)(A)(B)(C)(D). The formulation and adoption of these rules will impact every licensee in the same manner and each licensee is independently licensed, owned and operated in the field of Dispensing Opticians.

*After discussion and consideration of the rule change, Mr. Sanford moved and Mrs. Drake seconded and the Board voted to adopt the proposed rule 420-5-.01 in accordance with 50-13-4 (a)(1) as posted.*

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### Rule 420-5-.01- Examination Requirements

#### GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF DISPENSING OPTICIANS

NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF DISPENSING OPTICIANS RULES FOR CHAPTER 420-5-.01:

Examination Requirements. Amended AND NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS

#### SYNOPSIS OF PROPOSED REVISIONS TO THE GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF DISPENSING OPTICIANS RULE 420-5-.01 Examination Requirements. Amended.

**Purpose:** To update/clarify outdated rule language with regard to several areas identified by the Board.

**Main Features:** The proposed rule amendments include: (1) updating of rule language with regard to examinations, (2) updating of the required time frame for receipt of complete applications prior to scheduling to sit for the Dispensing Opticians Practical Exam, (3) updating of rule language regarding transcripts, (4) updating of rule language with regard to recognized school programs, (5) updating of rule language with regard to supporting affidavits required, (6) updating of rule language regarding the practical examination score and (7) title change.

#### DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE EXISTING RULE AND THE PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF DISPENSING OPTICIANS RULE 420-5-.01 Examination Requirements. Amended.

[Note: underlined text is proposed to be added; lined-through text is proposed to be deleted.]

Rule 420-5-.01 Examination Requirements. Amended is hereby revised as follows:

#### 420-5-.01 Application and Examination Requirements. Amended.

(1) The optical dispensing examination shall be held a minimum of twice a year. ~~The times and places shall be determined by the Board.~~

(2) Complete applications with all attachments and documents shall be filed with the Board at least ~~60~~ thirty (30) days prior to the examination. Each application must be accompanied by the following attachments:

(a) Verification of age (Birth Certificate or equivalent required);

(b) Copy of high school ~~transcript or~~ diploma or its equivalent as defined by the State Board of Education; indicating graduation date;

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(c) If applying on the basis of education, the applicant must have satisfactorily completed a course of study in a recognized school of ~~optical~~ ophthalmic dispensing approved by the Board. College transcript, with graduation date, and copy of diploma must accompany application.

(d) A recognized school of ophthalmic dispensing is defined as one that offers an ophthalmic dispensing program issuing a diploma and/or degree that is recognized by the Georgia State Board of Dispensing Opticians;

~~(d) (e) Applicants applying on a basis of education and experience must submit a copy of their college transcript;~~ Applicants applying on the basis of education and experience must submit a transcript and an affidavit that specifies total course study clock hours completed from a recognized accredited program, plus an affidavit of work hours completed. The total combined number of hours must be a minimum of 3000 hours;

~~(e) (f)~~ A fee established by the Board must accompany the application;

~~(f) (g)~~ Photograph of applicant within last year.

(3) Subject matter of examination shall be related to ~~optical~~ ophthalmic dispensing.

(4) The passing score ~~is for~~ the ophthalmic dispensing practical examination shall be ~~70 for the ABO examination; 72 for the NCLE examination and 75. for the practical examination.~~

~~Beginning with August, 1986 administration of the examination, once a candidate obtains a passing score on any part of the examination, that candidate does not have to retake that portion of the examination.~~

(5) Any false or misleading information in connection with any application may be cause for exclusion from the examination on the ground of lack of good moral character. If the Board finds that the application is complete and that all the requirements of the statute and of the regulations have been met, it shall issue to the applicant a letter which shall advise the applicant of the time, date and place of the examination. The candidate shall submit ~~his~~ his/her letter to the examiner upon entrance to the examination room.

(6) Licensing examinations shall be conducted in accordance with the following procedure, and any candidate violating any of such procedure, may be dismissed from the examination room or otherwise disciplined:

(a) ~~no candidate shall enter the examination more than 45 minutes after the question papers have been distributed nor shall any candidate leave the examination until 45 minutes have elapsed;~~ no candidate may enter the examination room late nor leave the examination room early.

(b) during the examination no candidate shall communicate with any other candidate in any other way;

(c) a candidate shall not bring books or other help of any kind into the examination room unless directed to do so by the Board because of the character of the examination.

(7) Prior to issuance of a license, applicant must submit current ABO and NCLE certificates.

**Authority O.C.G.A. §§ 43-29-3, 43-29-6, 43-29-7 and 43-29-8**

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Mr. Schulz moved, Mr. Meldrum seconded and with no items requiring discussion, the Board voted to adjourn today's meeting at 9:45 a.m.

Minutes recorded by: Gwen Dodson, *Administrative Assistant*

Minutes reviewed and edited by: Sylvia Bond, *Executive Director*

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Glenn Morris, *Board President*

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Sylvia Bond, *Executive Director*

The minutes were approved on February 28, 2007.